



NEWS RELEASE

APACHE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

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April 2, 2009

Additional Status Conferences Scheduled

ST. JOHNS – Earlier today the court granted the State's request that an unredacted copy of an earlier evaluation be provided to the doctors named to complete the juvenile's upcoming predisposition evaluations. The court noted there was to be no secondary dissemination of the evaluation.

Defense counsel Benjamin Brewer expressed concern regarding the lack of schooling for the juvenile and solicited the court's assistance in obtaining education services. Following discussion of provisions of the plea agreement that address schooling issues, and past efforts to secure education services, County Attorney Michael Whiting was asked to confer with counsel for the St. Johns School District and identify available services.

A request for travel funds was made on behalf of the juvenile and his mother. Supervision of the juvenile prevents her from seeking employment and she lacks funds for out-of-town travel necessary for the predisposition evaluations. The County Attorney's Office agreed to provide funding for this purpose.

Additional Status Conferences were scheduled for April 9th at 1:00 p.m. and April 30th at 1:30 p.m. The earlier date will be to determine progress in securing education services with only counsel participating. On April 30th, the court hopes to set a Disposition Hearing date.

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